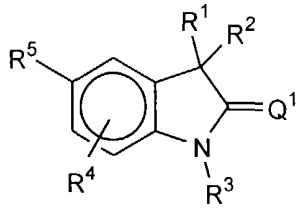
What is Claimed:

1. A method of treating acne and/or hirsutism comprising the step of delivering to a mammal in need thereof a composition comprising a compound of formula I, or a tautomer thereof, and a physiologically compatible carrier, wherein formula I is:



I

wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, OH, O(alkyl), O(substituted alkyl), O(Acetyl), aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic ring, substituted heterocyclic ring, alkylaryl, substituted alkylaryl, alkylheteroaryl, substituted alkylheteroaryl, 1-propynyl, substituted 1-propynyl, 3-propynyl, and substituted 3-propynyl;

or R^1 and R^2 are joined to form a ring selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2(CH_2)_nCH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-O(CH_2)_mCH_2-$, $-O(CH_2)_pO-$, $-CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2N(H)CH_2CH_2-$, and $-CH_2CH_2N(alkyl)CH_2CH_2-$;

m is an integer from 1 to 4;

n is an integer from 1 to 5;

p is an integer from 1 to 4;

or R^1 and R^2 form a double bond to $C(CH_3)_2$, C(cycloalkyl), O, or C(cycloether);

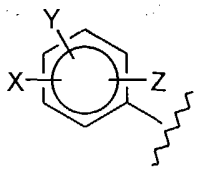
R^3 is selected from the group consisting of H, OH, NH_2, C_1 to C_6 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_3 to C_6 alkenyl, substituted C_3 to C_6 alkenyl, alkynyl, substituted alkynyl, and COR^A;

R^A is selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, and substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NH_2, C_1 to C_6 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_1 to C_6 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkoxy, C_1 to C_6 aminoalkyl, and substituted C_1 to C_6 aminoalkyl;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of a), b) and c):

a) a substituted benzene ring having the structure:



X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH, CN, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl, S(O)alkyl, $S(O)_2$alkyl, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 perfluoroalkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 perfluoroalkyl, 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic ring having 1 to 3 heteroatoms, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CNHNHOH, CNH_2NOH, CNHNOH, COR^B, CSR^B, $OCOR^B$, and NR^CCOR^B;

R^B is selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, and substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl;

R^C is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl;

Y and Z are independently selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_4 alkyl, C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl, and substituted C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

b) a five or six membered heterocyclic ring comprising 1, 2, or 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of O, S, SO, SO_2 and NR^6 and having one or two independent substituents from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_4 alkyl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3

alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, COR^D, CSR^D, and NR^ECOR^D;

R^D is H, NH_2, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, or substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl;

R^E is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl;

R^6 is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or C_1 to C_4CO_2alkyl;

or

c) an indol-4-yl, indol-7-yl or benzo-2-thiophene moiety, wherein said moiety is optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, CN, NO_2, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, and CF_3;

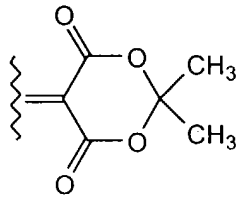
Q^1 is S, NR^7, or CR^8R^9;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of CN, C_1 to C_6 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_3 to C_8 cycloalkyl, substituted C_3 to C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic ring, substituted heterocyclic ring, acyl, substituted acyl, aroyl, substituted aroyl, SO_2CF_3, OR^{11}, and $NR^{11}R^{12}$;

R^8 and R^9 are independent substituents selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, acyl, substituted acyl, aroyl, substituted aroyl, C_3 to C_8 cycloalkyl, substituted C_3 to C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic ring, substituted heterocyclic ring, NO_2, CN, and CO_2R^{10};

R^{10} is C_1 to C_3 alkyl or substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl;

or CR^8R^9 comprise a six membered ring having the structure:



R^{11} and R^{12} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic ring, substituted heterocyclic ring, acyl, substituted acyl, aroyl, substituted aroyl, sulfonyl, and substituted sulfonyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.

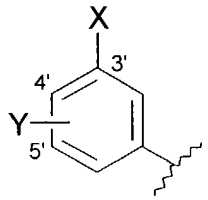
2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are joined to form a $-CH_2(CH_2)_nCH_2-$ ring;

n is 3;

R^3 and R^4 are H;

R^5 is the substituted benzene ring having the structure:



X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, COR^B, CSR^B, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 perfluoroalkyl, 5 membered heterocyclic ring comprising 1 to 3 heteroatoms, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

R^B is C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl or substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, wherein said aminoalkyl is NH(alkyl) or $N(alkyl)_2$;

Y is selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl.

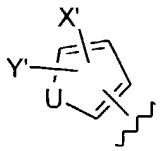
3. The method according to Claim 1, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are joined to form the $-CH_2(CH_2)_nCH_2-$ ring;

n is 3;

R^3 and R^4 are H;

R^5 is the five membered ring having the structure:



U is O, S, or NR^6;

X' is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, NO_2, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, COR^B, CSR^B, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 alkoxy;

R^B is C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl or substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, wherein said aminoalkyl is NH(alkyl) or $N(alkyl)_2$;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, and C_1 to C_4 alkyl, wherein said halogen is F.

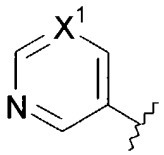
4. The method according to Claim 1, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are joined to form a $-CH_2(CH_2)_nCH_2-$ ring;

n is 3;

R^3 and R^4 are H;

R^5 is the six membered ring having the structure:



X^1 is N or CX^2;

X^2 is halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, COR^B, CSR^B, or NO_2;

R^B is C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl or substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, wherein said aminoalkyl is NH(alkyl) or $N(alkyl)_2$.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are alkyl or substituted alkyl;

R^3 is H.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are joined to form a ring selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2(CH_2)_nCH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-O(CH_2)_mCH_2-$, $-O(CH_2)_pO-$, $-CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2N(H)CH_2CH_2-$, and $-CH_2CH_2N(alkyl)CH_2CH_2-$;

R^3 is H.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein:

R^3 is H;

Q^1 is S or NR^7.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound is delivered orally.

9. The method according to claims 1, wherein said compound of formula I is selected from the group consisting of 5'-(3-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(1'H)-thione, 3-(1',2'-Dihydro-2'-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)benzonitrile, 4-1',2'-Dihydro-2'-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 3-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-5-fluorobenzonitrile, 4-Methyl-5-(1,2-dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]-indol]-5-yl)-2-thiophenethioamide, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclopentane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-1-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-1-H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(2'-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-1-methyl-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclopentane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-3thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-thioxospiro[cyclopentane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-2thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(3-Fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(2-Amino-5-pyrimidinyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione,

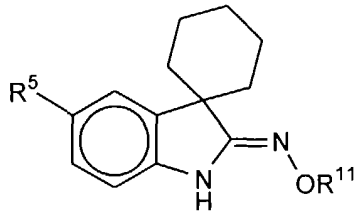
3-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclopentane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-5-fluorobenzonitrile, 5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-indole-2-thione, 3-Benzyl-5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-indole-2-thione, 4-(3,3-dimethyl-2-thioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indol-5-yl)-2-furonitrile, 5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-indole-2-thione, 3-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-4-fluorobenzonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-3-pyridinecarbonitrile, 5-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(5-Chloro-2-thienyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-3-furancarbonitrile, 5-(3-Chloro-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(3-Chloro-5-fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(3,5-Difluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-4-propyl-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(3-Fluoro-4-nitrophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 4-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-2-furancarbonitrile, 5”-(3-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclobutane-1,3”-[3H]indol]-2”(1”H)-thione, 5”-(2-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3”-[3H]indol]-2”(1”H)-thione, 5”-(4-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3”-[3H]indol]-2”(1”H)-thione, 5-(1",2"-Dihydro-2"-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3"-[3H]indol]-5"-yl)-4-methyl-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(1",2"-Dihydro-2"-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3"-[3H]indol]-5"-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5"-(3-Fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3"-[3H]indol]-2"(1"H)-thione, 5-(3-Hydroxyphenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3,3-diethyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-indole-2-thione, 5-(4-Fluoro-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 4-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-4-n-butyl-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(3-Fluoro-5-methoxyphenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(3-Chlorophenyl)-N-hydroxyspiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2-amine, N-(Acetyloxy)-5’-(3-chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-

[3H]indol]-2"amine, 5'-(3-Fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(1'H)-one oxime, 5'-(2-Fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(1'H)-one oxime, 5'-(4-Fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(1'H)-one oxime, 5'-(3,4-difluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(1'H)-one oxime, 5'-(3-methoxyphenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(1'H)-one oxime, 5'-(3-nitrophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(1'H)-one oxime, 5'-(3-cyanophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(1'H)-one oxime, 3-(1',2'-Dihydro-2'-(hydroxyimino)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-5-fluorobenzonitrile, 5-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-4-methyl-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 4-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-1H-pyrrole-1-methyl-2-carbonitrile, 5-(spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 4-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(acetoxyimino)-5'-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 3-Fluoro-N'-hydroxy-5-(2'-(hydroxyamino)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)benzenecarboximidamide, N'-Hydroxy-5-(spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-4-methyl-2-thiophenecarboximidamide, N'-Hydroxy-4-(spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-hydroxyimino)-5'-yl-2-thiophenecarboximidamide, N'-Hydroxy-5-(spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-2-thiophenecarboxidamide, 5'-(3-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(3-Cyano-5-fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(5-Cyano-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(5-Cyano-thiophen-2-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(5-Cyano-3-methyl-thiophen-2-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(5-Cyano-thiophen-3-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 3-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-5-fluoro-benzonitrile, 5-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-

yl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-thiophene-2-carbonitrile, 5-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-4-methyl-thiophene-2-carbonitrile, and 4-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-thiophene-2-carbonitrile, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.

10. The method according to claims 1, wherein said compound is 5'-(5-Cyano-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.

11. A method of treating acne and/or hirsutism comprising the step of delivering to a mammal in need thereof a composition comprising a compound of formula II, or a tautomer thereof, and a physiologically compatible carrier, wherein formula II is:



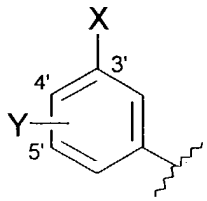
II

wherein:

R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of H, acyl, substituted acyl, aroyl, substituted aroyl, sulfonyl, and substituted sulfonyl;

R^5 is (i), (ii), or (iii):

(i) a substituted benzene ring having the structure:

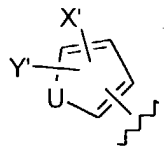


wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$, CNHNHOH, CNH_2NOH, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 perfluoroalkyl, 5 membered heterocyclic ring comprising 1 to 3 heteroatoms, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

Y is selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

(ii) a five membered ring having the structure:



wherein:

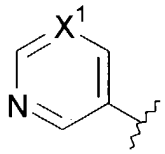
U is O, S, or NR^6;

R^6 is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or C_1 to C_4 CO_2alkyl;

X' is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, NO_2, $CONH_2$, CNHNHOH, CNH_2NOH, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 alkoxy;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of H, F, and C_1 to C_4 alkyl; or

(iii) a six membered ring having the structure:



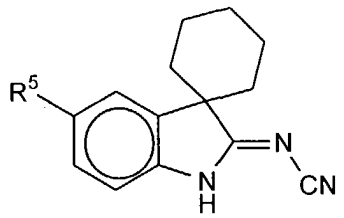
wherein:

X^1 is N or CX^2;

X^2 is halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$ or NO_2;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein R^5 is said five membered ring and U is O or S.

13. A method of treating acne and/or hirsutism comprising the step of delivering to a mammal in need thereof a composition comprising a compound of formula III, or a tautomer thereof, and a physiologically compatible carrier, wherein formula III is:

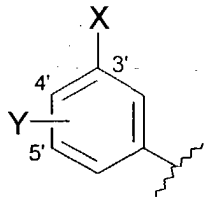


III

wherein:

R^5 is (i), (ii), or (iii):

(i) a substituted benzene ring having the structure:

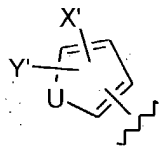


wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$, CNHNOH, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 perfluoroalkyl, 5 membered heterocyclic ring comprising 1 to 3 heteroatoms, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

Y is selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

(ii) a five membered ring having the structure:



wherein:

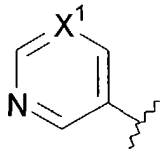
U is O, S, or NR^6;

R^6 is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or C_1 to C_4 CO_2alkyl;

X' is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, NO_2, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 alkoxy;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of H, F and C_1 to C_4 alkyl; or

(iii) a six membered ring having the structure:



wherein:

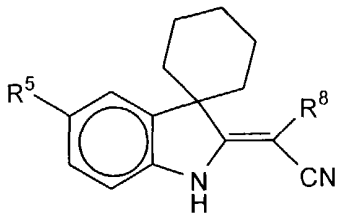
X^1 is N or CX^2;

X^2 is halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$ or NO_2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein R^5 is the five membered ring (ii) and U is O or S.

15. A method of treating acne and/or hirsutism comprising the step of delivering to a mammal in need thereof a composition comprising a compound of formula IV, or a tautomer thereof, and a physiologically compatible carrier, wherein formula IV is:



IV

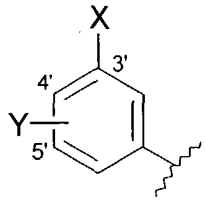
wherein:

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of H, CO_2R^{10}, acyl, substituted acyl, aroyl, substituted aroyl, alkyl, substituted alkyl, and CN;

R^{10} is C_1 to C_3 alkyl;

R^5 is (i), (ii), or (iii):

(i) a substituted benzene ring having the structure:

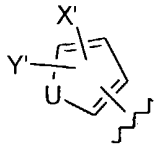


wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$, CNHNOH, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 perfluoroalkyl, 5 membered heterocyclic ring comprising 1 to 3 heteroatoms, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

Y is selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

(ii) a five membered ring having the structure:



wherein:

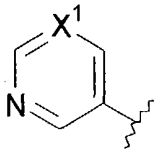
U is O, S, or NR^6;

R^6 is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or C_1 to C_4 CO_2alkyl;

X' is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, NO_2, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 alkoxy;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of H, F and C_1 to C_4 alkyl;

(iii) a six membered ring having the structure:



wherein:

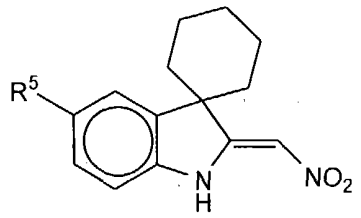
X^1 is N or CX^2;

X^2 is halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$ or NO_2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.

16. The method according to claim 15, wherein R^5 is the five-membered ring (ii) and U is O or S.

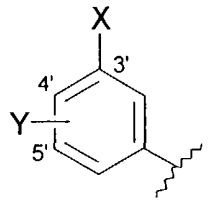
17. A method of treating acne and hirsutism comprising the step of delivering to a mammal in need thereof a composition comprising a compound of formula V, or a tautomer thereof, and a physiologically compatible carrier, wherein formula V is:



V

R^5 is (i), (ii), or (iii):

(i) a substituted benzene ring having the structure:

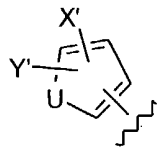


wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$, CNHNOH, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 perfluoroalkyl, 5 membered heterocyclic ring comprising 1 to 3 heteroatoms, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

Y is selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

(ii) a five membered ring having the structure:



wherein:

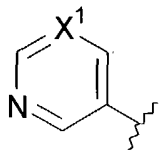
U is O, S, or NR^6;

R^6 is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or C_1 to C_4 CO_2alkyl;

X' is selected from the group consisting of halogen, CN, NO_2, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, and C_1 to C_3 alkoxy;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of H, F, and C_1 to C_4 alkyl;

(iii) a six membered ring having the structure:



wherein:

X^1 is N or CX^2;

X^2 is halogen, CN, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CONHalkyl, CSNHalkyl, $CON(alkyl)_2$, $CSN(alkyl)_2$ or NO_2;

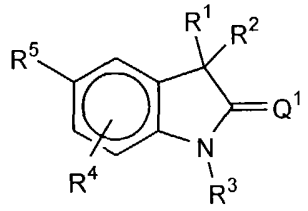
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein R^5 is the five membered ring (ii) and U is O or S.

19. A composition for conditioning the skin of a mammal in need thereof comprising:

(i) a skin conditioning component; and

(ii) a compound of formula I, or a tautomer thereof:



I

wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, OH, O(alkyl), O(substituted alkyl), O(Acetyl), aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic ring, substituted heterocyclic ring, alkylaryl, substituted alkylaryl, alkylheteroaryl, substituted alkylheteroaryl, 1-propynyl, substituted 1-propynyl, 3-propynyl, and substituted 3-propynyl;

or R^1 and R^2 are joined to form a ring selected from the group consisting of

$-CH_2(CH_2)_nCH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-O(CH_2)_mCH_2-$, $-O(CH_2)_pO-$, $-CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2N(H)CH_2CH_2-$, and $-CH_2CH_2N(alkyl)CH_2CH_2-$;

m is an integer from 1 to 4;

n is an integer from 1 to 5;

p is an integer from 1 to 4;

or R^1 and R^2 form a double bond to $C(CH_3)_2$, C(cycloalkyl), O, or C(cycloether);

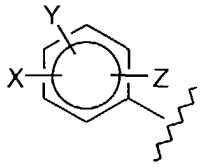
R^3 is selected from the group consisting of H, OH, NH_2, C_1 to C_6 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_3 to C_6 alkenyl, substituted C_3 to C_6 alkenyl, alkynyl, substituted alkynyl, and COR^A;

R^A is selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, and substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NH_2, C_1 to C_6 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_1 to C_6 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkoxy, C_1 to C_6 aminoalkyl, and substituted C_1 to C_6 aminoalkyl;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of a), b) and c):

a) a substituted benzene ring having the structure:



X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, OH, CN, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl, S(O)alkyl, $S(O)_2$alkyl, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 perfluoroalkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 perfluoroalkyl, 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic ring comprising 1 to 3 heteroatoms, $CONH_2$, $CSNH_2$, CNHNHOH, CNH_2NOH, CNHNOH, COR^B, CSR^B, $OCOR^B$, and NR^CCOR^B;

R^B is selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl,

substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, and substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl;

R^C is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl;

Y and Z are independently selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_4 alkyl, C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl, and substituted C_1 to C_3 thioalkyl;

b) a five or six membered heterocyclic ring comprising 1, 2, or 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of O, S, SO, SO_2 and NR^6 and having one or two independent substituents from the group consisting of H, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_4 alkyl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, COR^D, CSR^D, and NR^ECOR^D;

R^D is H, NH_2, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkoxy, C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl, or substituted C_1 to C_3 aminoalkyl;

R^E is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl;

R^6 is H, C_1 to C_3 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl, or C_1 to C_4CO_2alkyl; or

c) an indol-4-yl, indol-7-yl or benzo-2-thiophene moiety, wherein said moiety is optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, CN, NO_2, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, and CF_3;

Q^1 is S, NR^7, or CR^8R^9;

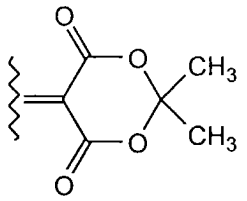
R^7 is selected from the group consisting of CN, C_1 to C_6 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_3 to C_8 cycloalkyl, substituted C_3 to C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic ring, substituted heterocyclic ring, acyl, substituted acyl, aroyl, substituted aroyl, SO_2CF_3, OR^{11}, and $NR^{11}R^{12}$;

R^8 and R^9 are independent substituents selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 to C_6 alkyl, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_3 to C_8 cycloalkyl, substituted C_3 to C_8

cycloalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic ring, substituted heterocyclic ring, NO_2, CN, and CO_2R^{10};

R^{10} is C_1 to C_3 alkyl or substituted C_1 to C_3 alkyl;

or CR^8R^9 comprise a six membered ring having the structure:



R^{11} and R^{12} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocyclic ring, substituted heterocyclic ring, acyl, substituted acyl, aroyl, substituted aroyl, sulfonyl, and substituted sulfonyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.

20. The composition according to claim 19, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are alkyl or substituted alkyl;

R^3 is H.

21. The composition according to claim 19, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are joined to form a ring selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2(CH_2)_nCH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-O(CH_2)_mCH_2-$, $-O(CH_2)_pO-$, $-CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2N(H)CH_2CH_2-$, and $-CH_2CH_2N(alkyl)CH_2CH_2-$;

R^3 is H.

22. The composition according to claim 19, wherein:

R^3 is H;

Q^1 is S or NR^7.

23. A method of conditioning the skin comprising the step of delivering to a mammal in need thereof a composition according to claim 19.

24. The method according to claims 23 wherein said compound of formula I is selected from the group consisting of 5'-(3-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(1'H)-thione, 3-(1',2'-Dihydro-2'-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)benzonitrile, 4-1',2'-Dihydro-2'-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 3-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-5-fluorobenzonitrile, 4-Methyl-5-(1,2-dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]-indol]-5-yl)-2-thiophenethioamide, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclopentane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-1-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-1-H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(2'-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-1-methyl-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclopentane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-3thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-thioxospiro[cyclopentane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-2thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(3-Fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(2-Amino-5-pyrimidinyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 3-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclopentane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-5-fluorobenzonitrile, 5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-indole-2-thione, 3-Benzyl-5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-indole-2-thione, 4-(3,3-dimethyl-2-thioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indol-5-yl)-2-furonitrile, 5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-indole-2-thione, 3-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-4-fluorobenzonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-3-pyridinecarbonitrile, 5-(3,4-Difluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(5-Chloro-2-thienyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-3-furancarbonitrile, 5-(3-Chloro-4-fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(3-Chloro-5-fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(3,5-Difluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-

2(1H)-thione, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-4-propyl-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(3-Fluoro-4-nitrophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 4-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-2-furancarbonitrile, 5”-(3-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclobutane-1,3”-[3H]indol]-2”(1”H)-thione, 5”-(2-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3”-[3H]indol]-2”(1”H)-thione, 5”-(4-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3”-[3H]indol]-2”(1”H)-thione, 5-(1",2"-Dihydro-2"-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3"-[3H]indol]-5"-yl)-4-methyl-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(1",2"-Dihydro-2"-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3"-[3H]indol]-5"-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5"-(3-Fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3"-[3H]indol]-2"(1"H)-thione, 5-(3-Hydroxyphenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3,3-diethyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-indole-2-thione, 5-(4-Fluoro-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 4-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzonitrile, 5-(1,2-Dihydro-2-thioxospiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-5-yl)-4-n-butyl-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(3-Fluoro-5-methoxyphenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3-[3H]indol]-2(1H)-thione, 5-(3-Chlorophenyl)-N-hydroxyspiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2-amine, N-(Acetyloxy)-5’-(3-chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2”amine, 5’-(3-Fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2’(1’H)-one oxime, 5’-(2-Fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2’(1’H)-one oxime, 5’-(4-Fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2’(1’H)-one oxime, 5’-(3,4-difluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2’(1’H)-one oxime, 5’-(3-methoxyphenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2’(1’H)-one oxime, 5’-(3-nitrophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2’(1’H)-one oxime, 5’-(3-cyanophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2’(1’H)-one oxime, 3-(1’,2’-Dihydro-2’-(hydroxyimino)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-5’-yl)-5-fluorobenzonitrile, 5-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-4-methyl-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-2’-(hydroxyimino)-5’-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 4-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3’-[3H]indol]-

2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 5-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-1H-pyrrole-1-methyl-2-carbonitrile, 5-(spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 4-(Spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'(acetoxyimino)-5'-yl)-2-thiophenecarbonitrile, 3-Fluoro-N'-hydroxy-5-(2'-(hydroxyamino)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)benzenecarboximidamide, N'-Hydroxy-5-(spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-4-methyl-2-thiophenecarboximidamide, N'-Hydroxy-4-(spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-hydroxyimino)-5'-yl-2-thiophenecarboximidamide, N'-Hydroxy-5-(spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-(hydroxyimino)-5'-yl)-2-thiophenecarboxidamide, 5'-(3-Chlorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(3-Cyano-5-fluorophenyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(5-Cyano-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(5-Cyano-thiophen-2-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(5-Cyano-3-methyl-thiophen-2-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 5'-(5-Cyano-thiophen-3-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, 3-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-5-fluoro-benzonitrile, 5-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carbonitrile, 5-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-thiophene-2-carbonitrile, 5-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-4-methyl-thiophene-2-carbonitrile, and 4-(2'-Cyanomethylene-spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-5'-yl)-thiophene-2-carbonitrile, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.

25. The method according to claim 23, wherein said compound is 5'-(5-Cyano-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-[3H]indol]-2'-ylidenecyanamide, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, tautomer, metabolite, or prodrug thereof.